THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF COORG.

NOTIFICATION.

No. 18. *The 3rd July* 1885.

Tenders are invited for the exclusive privilege of the manufacture and wholesale vend of arrack in the Province of Coorg for 2½ years from the 1st October 1885 to the 1st of April 1888 subject to the following conditions :—

1. That the arrack shall be distilled within the Government enclosure at Fraserpet of good palm and sugar-cane jaggory : and that only such quantity of nayibela bark shall be used in its manufacture as may be necessary and as shall be fixed by the Commissioner.

2. That the price at which arrack 20° under proof shall be sold at the wholesale depôts to licensed vendors is fixed at Rs. 4—8—0 per imperial gallon of 6 quart bottles : the retail vend rate to the public being fixed at annas 1—7 per dram in towns, and annas 1—8 in villages. An allowance of 2 per cent will be granted to the contractor on account of wastage.

3. The rate of still head duty is fixed by the Officiating Chief Commissioner at Rs. 3—2—5 per imperial gallon of spirit 20° under proof. Each tenderer should specify the minimum amount per annum of revenue which he will guarantee to pay to the British Government on account of the aforesaid still head duty. In the event of a larger quantity of liquor being issued during a month than would be covered by the monthly payment of the guaranteed amount, the excise duty on each gallon so issued in excess shall also be paid by the holder of the license. In those months in which the issue may be less, the holder will be allowed the benefit of what he may have paid in excess of the monthly guaranteed amount, and a general balance will be struck at the close of each year, when the holder of the license will have to pay the duty on the number of gallons issued during the year in excess of the number of gallons the duty on which may have been covered by the minimum amount guaranteed by him to the Government.

4. The contractor will not be required to pay the cost of guards and of the gauging establishment unless the Government of India, to whom a reference on the subject has been made, desires the continuance of the existing system under which the charges in question are defrayed by the contractor. In the latter event, a refund equivalent in amount to the payments which the contractor is called upon to make will be credited to him from payments made by him from time to time into the Government Treasury.

5. The contractor shall pay Rs. 25 per mensem as rent for the use of the distillery buildings at Fraserpet, and shall be bound to take over from the out-going contractors the unexpended stock of arrack, jaggory and bark in the distillery together with the stills, casks, pots, pumps, buildings, &c., at such valuation as may be fixed by the Commissioner.

6. A deposit of Rs. 1,000 in cash or in Government securities must accompany the tender. The cover should be superscribed with the words—

"Tender for the exclusive privilege of the manufacture and wholesale vend of arrack in Coorg," and must be sent to the Commissioner of Coorg, so as to reach him on or before 12 o'clock (noon) on the 17th of August 1885, after which time no tender will be received.

7. The tenders will be opened by the Commissioner at his office at 12 o'clock (noon) on the 18th of August 1885, in the presence of the applicants who may be present. The final disposal of the tenders will, however, rest with the Officiating Chief Commissioner of Coorg, who reserves to himself full power to reject any or all of the tenders without assigning any reason. The deposits made by the applicants whose tenders are rejected will be returned to them.

8. The applicant or applicants whose tenders are selected by the Commissioner for recommendation to the Chief Commissioner, shall be required to deposit at once in cash or in Government securities, a sum equal to one-twelfth of the minimum annual revenue guaranteed by him or them, failing which the deposit made with the tender shall be forfeited.

9. The applicant whose tender is finally accepted by the Chief Commissioner shall, within eight days of the acceptance of his tender being communicated to him, deposit with the Commissioner a

further sum in cash or in Government securities, to make up with the deposits previously made, a sum equal to one-third of the yearly revenue guaranteed, and shall execute an agreement in the prescribed form on stamp paper binding himself to conform to the prescribed conditions; and if he fails or refuses to sign the agreement, or to make the deposit required, the deposits already made shall be forfeited to Government and the contract shall be otherwise disposed of.

10. The right of issuing licenses for retail shops and of reducing their number, or altering their locality is retained in the hands of the British Government. It is proposed to reduce their number to 72. A license will, however, on application, be given to the contractors for opening one retail shop at each of the towns of Mercara, Virarajendrapet, Gonikoppal and Ammatti on the conditions of their paying the ordinary license fee of Rs. 20 per mensem.

11. Intending tenderers are informed that the quantity of arrack, 20° under proof, on which still head duty was paid at Fraserpet during the last official year was 41,208 gallons.

12. Further conditions may be ascertained on application to the Commissioner of Coorg, Mercara.

By Order,

A. H. T. MARTINDALE,
Secretary.

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